

NEW NOMENCLATORIAL COMBINATIONS FOR
GALAPAGOS PLANT SPECIES

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In a number of cases I accept different generic limits, and, hence, some different generic names from those adopted by Wiggins and Porter, Flora of the Galapagos Islands, 1971. In a few instances, appropriate specific names do not exist in the genera that I accept, and transfers and new combinations must be made.

In the Rubiaceae, I include the genus Borreria G.F.W. Mey., in the older genus Spermacoce L., in agreement with Dr. B. Verdcourt (Kew Bull. 30: 366, 1975). Wiggins and Porter place all but one of the eight Galapagos species in Borreria, six of which do not have names in Spermacoce. The one called by them Borreria laevis (Lam.) Griseb., introduced in the Galapagos is a pantropical weed that has been almost universally misidentified. Both Verdcourt and I have examined the type of Spermacoce laevis Lamarck, in the Paris herbarium, and agree that it has nothing to do with the widely introduced, weedy species found in the Galapagos, which should be called Spermacoce assurgens R. & P. Dr. Verdcourt has established that the type of Spermacoce laevis belongs to Spermacoce tenuior L. (Kew Bull. 37: 545-546, 1983).

I do not accept the genus Lycopersicon L. as sufficiently distinct from Solanum L. to constitute more than a section of the latter genus. The slight difference in the dehiscence of the anthers does not outweigh all the similarities in other features. The endemic Galapagos wild tomato has not, to my knowledge, heretofore been placed in Solanum, and requires a name in that genus.

The new combinations, with basionyms and references, follow:

Family SOLANACEAE

Solanum cheesmaniae (Riley) Fosberg, N. Comb.

Lycopersicon cheesmanii [sic] Riley, Kew Bull. 1925: 227, 1925; Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. Is. 469, 1971.

Riley used the ii ending, despite the fact that the plant is named for the collector, Miss L. Evelyn Cheesman. The type is from Indefatigable Island (Santa Cruz), Cheesman in Riley

403 (K). In making the combination, I have changed the ending appropriately.

It is unfortunate that this epithet is so similar to that of Solanum cheesemanii Gerasimanko of New Zealand, named for a different person, altogether, and spelled slightly differently, but the two epithets are neither orthographic variants nor homonyms and must be maintained.

FAMILY RUBIACEAE

Spermacoce assurgens R. & P., Fl. Peruv. 1: 60, pl. 92, f. c, 1798.

Borreria laevis sensu auct. plur., et Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. 424, 1971, non (L.) Griseb., G8tt. Abh. 231, 1857 (Spermacoce laevis Lam., Ill. Gen. 1: 273, 1791).

Verdcourt, Kew Bull. 37: 545-546, 1983, has shown that Spermacoce laevis Lam. is synonymous with Spermacoce tenuior L.

Spermacoce confusa Rendle, Jour. Bot. Brit. & For. 74: 12, f. d-f, 1936; Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. Is. 439, f. 112, 1971.

This species and S. tenuior L., from which it is scarcely distinct, are distinguished from those species treated by Wiggins and Porter as belonging to the genus Borreria G.F.W. Mey., only by having the two cells of the capsule slightly unequal, only one of which dehisces and releases its seed. This scarcely seems sufficient, especially as the two genera are indistinguishable when not fully mature.

Spermacoce dispersa (Hook. f.) Fosberg, n. comb.

Borreria dispersa Hook. f., Tr. Linn. Soc. Lond. 20: 217, 1847; Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. Is. 421, 1971.

Spermacoce ericaefolia (Hook. f.) Fosberg, n. comb.

Borreria ericaefolia Hook. f., Tr. Linn. Soc. Lond. 20: 218, 1847; Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. Is. 422, 1971.

Spermacoce linearifolia (Hook. f.) Fosberg, n. comb.

Borreria linearifolia Hook. f., Tr. Linn. Soc. Lond. 20: 217, 1847; Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. Is. 426, 1971.

Spermacoce perpusilla (Hook. f.)

Borreria perpusilla Hook. f., Tr. Linn. Soc. Lond. 20: 218, 1847; Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. Is. 426, 1971.

Spermacoce rotundifolia (Anderss.) Fosberg, n. comb.

Borreria rotundifolia Anderss., Kongl. Svensk. Vet.-Akad.
Handl. 1861: 77, 1861; Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. Is.
427, 1971, (non Borreria rotundifolia Valetton, 1930).

Spermacoce suberecta (Hook. f.) Fosberg, n. comb.

Borreria suberecta Hook. f., Tr. Linn. Soc. Lond. 20: 217,
1847; Wiggins & Porter, Fl. Galap. Is. 428, 1971.